

Teacher Education & Licensure More at Four Teachers Nonpublic Schools

Orientation & Information Handbook

More at Four Teachers, Site Administrators,
Local More at Four Contractors & Program Contacts

Introduction

The More at Four (MAF) Pre-Kindergarten Program requires MAF teachers, who work in either public or private schools, to have a Birth-through-Kindergarten Standard Professional II License (BK SP II License). Teachers in public schools have a system (self-assessment, mentoring, evaluation, individual growth plan) in place through their local education agencies (LEA) or public schools. That system is defined by policy set by the NC State Board of Education (SBE), and includes services to support professional growth—from the initial licensure stage (BK SP I License) to a continuing licensure level (BK SP II License)—with the goal of positively impacting child development and learning.

In 2001, when MAF was established, a similar system to support MAF teachers who work in nonpublic schools (private child care and Head Start programs) did not exist. Later, the need to establish similar services for MAF teachers who work in nonpublic schools was recognized, and by January 2007, the NC State Board of Education (SBE) approved the OSR to implement teacher licensure services for MAF teachers working in nonpublic schools. The OSR-Teacher Licensure Unit (TLU) was established and the first teacher cohort was served in May 2007. As with public schools, the OSR serves as the LEA for MAF teachers across the state who must meet the conditions of teacher licensure to remain employed as a MAF teacher. The TLU is responsible for conducting an orientation session for eligible MAF teachers and their site administrators to inform them about NC's teacher licensure policy and procedures.

The **TLU Orientation Handbook** is designed to supplement the information that is reviewed and discussed during the mandatory TLU Orientation Session. This session is typically scheduled during the first month of the school year, and conducted through video conference sites around the state. The Orientation Session is open to MAF teachers who have officially enrolled with the TLU and received written confirmation about the session. A teacher is eligible for TLU services once he/she has completed an orientation session, along with the site administrator, meets education pre-requisites, and submits required documents to the TLU. Initially, an assigned TLU mentor will serve as the point of contact for the MAF teacher until he/she completes the requirements for the BK SP II license. Once the teacher completes the requirements for a BK SP II license, the point of contact will be the TLU evaluator.

Orientation includes information about NC's professional teacher licensure system, and the policies and procedures that define how teachers are supported through their education and licensure journey to the highest licensure status and professional growth, the BK Standard Professional II License. Topics covered include: the NC State Board of Education's (SBE) Priorities for the 21st Century; OSR and its programs; More at Four Program Requirements; NC's Professional Teaching Standards; NC's BK Specialty Standards, Teacher Evaluation Standards and Practices; Professional Development Requirements, and the Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for NC Educators.

Welcome to the TLU! We look forward to working with you during your education and licensure journey!